IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of storage of electronic documents, said method includes the steps of:

compilation of compiling a list of possible storage locations for the documents within a document storage system, each storage location capable of storing a plurality of documents;

assessing each location in relation to specified attributes including attributes of documents already stored at said location and allocating a weighting value to each storage location with respect to other storage locations and in relation to specified attributes of each of the locations;

upon receipt of an electronic document, assessing at least one attribute of the document; and

comparing the at least one attribute of the document with the attributes and weighted values of said storage locations;

with reference to the attributes and weighted values of the selectable locations for storage, selecting to locate said electronic document in at least one of the storage locations; and

storing said electronic document in at least one of the storage locations.

2.   (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein for each incoming document, a correlation is made against a database representative of the filing properties of the storage location of the filing system being used to store the document.

3.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein a selected certain number of the storage locations with the strongest statistical correlation values are selected to locate and store

2

said ~~presented for selection upon receipt of a~~ document.

4.   (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 3 wherein when a correlation is matched for an incoming document, that document is stored in the matching storage location automatically.

5.   (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 3 wherein if, upon analysis of an incoming document, a matching correlation is not identified such that none of the presented storage locations are relevant, the incoming document is stored in a storage location using a conventional method of document filing.

6.   (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein as new documents are added into the filing system, the database of filing properties used for the correlation and analysis of storage locations is adapted to reflect the characteristics of the documents received.

7.   (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the method used is adaptive to reflect the characteristics of received documents.

8.   (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 7 wherein the storage location assessment occurs upon receipt of each new document.

9.	(Previously Amended)	A method according to claim 8 wherein said storage location assessment occurs at regular time intervals.

10.	(Previously Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein said attributes of said storage locations assessed are predefined by the system and/or the user.

11.	(Previously Amended)	A method according to claim 10 wherein statistical significance values are assigned to the selected attributes.

12.	(Previously Amended)	A method according to claim 1 wherein a companion database associated with the storage structure is provided, said database including statistically differentiating key words associated with particular storage locations and only these keywords are used in the correlation of the attributes of the incoming document and the available storage locations.

13.	(Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12 wherein the correlation and selection of said storage location for the incoming document is made with respect to the statistically differentiating key words ~~information~~ for said storage locations in the companion database rather than the actual contents of the documents stored in the storage locations.

14.	(Previously Amended)	A method according to claim1 wherein said electronic documents received are e-mails.

15. (Currently Amended) An e-mail reception and storage system, said system comprising:

a series of storage locations, each provided to receive selected e-mails;

the selection of a particular storage location for a received e-mail is made by assessing each location and allocating a weighting value to each location with respect to other locations and in relation to specified attributes of each of the locations; and~

upon receipt of the e-mail, assessing at least one attribute of the e-mail and, <u>comparing the at least one attribute of the e-mail</u> with ~reference to~ the weighted values of the storage locations for storage, selecting to locate said e-mail in at least one of the storage locations.

16. (Previously Amended) A system according to claim 15 wherein said received e-mail can be selected to be stored in more than one storage location.

17. (Previously Amended) A system according to claim 15 wherein said weighting values and/or attributes are reviewed and if necessary revised as new e-mails are received and stored.

18. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 15 wherein said attributes and weighting values <u>of the storage locations</u> are stored in a companion database ~with which the attributes of the received e-mail is compared rather than the actual content of each of the storage locations~.

5